

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A portable image transfer system comprising:  
 a digital still camera, which captures images in digital form and stores the  
 images in a camera memory;  
 a cellular telephone transmitter;  
 a central processing unit (CPU) coupled to the camera memory and the  
 cellular telephone transmitter, wherein the CPU controls the camera memory to cause it  
 to output data representing an image and the CPU controls the cellular telephone  
 transmitter to cause a cellular telephone to transmit the data output from the camera  
 memory;  
 a receiving station coupled to the cellular telephone transmitter by a  
 cellular network to receive image data;  
 means for resetting the camera memory to be reused for subsequent  
 images once an image is transmitted to the receiving station; and  
 an image storage device coupled to the receiving station to store images  
 received by the receiving station.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the CPU interfaces to a camera  
 memory of an existing digital still camera.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cellular telephone transmitter  
 comprises:  
 a standard cellular telephone; and  
 a cellular modem.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising means for packaging  
 images as electronic mail messages prior to transmission by the cellular telephone  
 transmitter.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising means for handling a  
 serial line interface protocol connection between the cellular telephone transmitter and the  
 receiving station.

1                   6.     The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising means for encrypting  
2 image data prior to transmission by the cellular telephone transmitter.

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2 the digital still camera to capture images in a periodic basis, wherein the CPU is  
3 programmed to periodically transmit an image to free the camera memory for accepting  
4 subsequent images.

1                   8.     The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising means for  
2 determining a location of the portable image transfer system and means for including a  
3 location indication with each image.

sub A<sub>3</sub> 1                   9.     The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a return link for  
2 sending commands from the receiving station to the CPU at the remote station.

1                   10.    The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the remote station further  
2 comprises means for sampling selected portions of an image in response to the  
3 commands sent from the receiving station.

1                   11.    The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a remote printing  
2 device for printing images processed by the receiving station.

1                   12.    The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the remote printing device is  
2 one of a facsimile machine, a digital copier or a printer.

Add A<sub>4</sub> 7